ORAL QUESTION H-0331/07 for Question Time at the part-session in May 2007 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Zdzisław Zbigniew Podkański to the Commission

Subject: Quota system for potato starch production

At the plenary sitting of 24 April in Strasbourg, Amendment No. 8 to the report establishing a quota system in relation to the production of potato starch (A6-0137/2007) was rejected. The amendment provided for a more rational allocation of quotas among Member States. The transfer of unused quotas from old Member States to new Member States would have meant that there was a chance of them being fully utilised and would have been of assistance to Poland and Lithuania, among other countries.

Furthermore, there would have been an improvement in production ratios, which are currently as follows: EU 15-90.4% and EU 10-9.6% (starch production); EU 15-70% and EU 10-30% (potato production)). Following the rejection of the above amendment, what steps will be Commission be taking to regulate potato starch production and meet the needs of the new Member States?

Tabled: 02.05.2007

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